

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/613,295	BLUME, GEORGE H.
	Examiner Christopher H. Orders	Art Unit 3746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS**. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to August 20, 2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. The drawings filed on 20 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

- The recitation of "Figure 9B" (pg. 19, ln. 8) is amended to be --Figure 10B-- to properly reference the drawings.
- The recitation of "Figure B" (pg. 19, ln. 15) is amended to be --Figure 8B-- to properly reference the drawings.
- The recitation of "interfaces.." (pg. 31, ln. 25) is amended to be --interfaces.-- for proper clarity.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dennis Gilstad on February 1, 2005.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art neither discloses nor renders obvious elongated cross-sections in transition areas where the discharge valve, suction valve, access bore, and plunger bore meet in a plunger pump housing. Further, the use of a spacer with parallel edges for reducing unswept area and positioning of the discharge valve lower stem guide and suction valve top stem guide and spring retainer is also neither disclosed nor rendered obvious.

Allard (5,145,340) teaches a piston and valve machine with suction and discharge valves disposed opposite each other and an access bore. Allard does not expressly disclose the use of elongated cross-sections in transition areas between the suction and discharge valves, access bore, and plunger cylinder. Further, Allard does not expressly disclose a spacer with an alignment groove for reducing unswept area and positioning the discharge valve lower stem guide and suction valve top stem guide and spring retainer.

McDuffie et al. (5,622,486) discloses that it is known within the art to use spacers in radial-valved compressors to adjust the operating position of valves within the bore to minimize the unswept area and optimize the compressor's efficiency (Col. 1, ln. 27-38 and Col. 2, ln. 5-19), but does not disclose or render obvious the use of an alignment groove to position a discharge valve lower stem guide and suction valve top stem guide and spring retainer.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher H. Orders whose telephone number is (571) 272-7163. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 6:30am-3:30pm.

Art Unit: 3746

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J. Tyler can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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CHERYL J. TYLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER